

University of Montana

## ScholarWorks at University of Montana

---

University of Montana News Releases, 1928,  
1956-present

University Relations

---

11-6-1995

### Montana poll finds GOP House candidates largely unknown

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations

Follow this and additional works at: <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases>

**Let us know how access to this document benefits you.**

---

#### Recommended Citation

University of Montana–Missoula. Office of University Relations, "Montana poll finds GOP House candidates largely unknown" (1995). *University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present*. 13903. <https://scholarworks.umt.edu/newsreleases/13903>

This News Article is brought to you for free and open access by the University Relations at ScholarWorks at University of Montana. It has been accepted for inclusion in University of Montana News Releases, 1928, 1956-present by an authorized administrator of ScholarWorks at University of Montana. For more information, please contact [scholarworks@mso.umt.edu](mailto:scholarworks@mso.umt.edu).

# The University of Montana

## NEWS RELEASE

University Communications  
Missoula, MT 59812  
(406) 243-2522

---

This release is available electronically on INN (News Net).

Nov. 6, 1995

### MONTANA POLL FINDS GOP HOUSE CANDIDATES LARGELY UNKNOWN

#### MISSOULA --

Early in the Republican primary campaign for Montana's U.S. House seat, most Montanans are undecided, mostly because they are not familiar with the three candidates, according to the latest Montana Poll.

For this edition of the Montana Poll, 411 adult Montanans were polled statewide September 21-26. The poll is conducted by The University of Montana Bureau of Business and Economic Research.

Six respondents in ten (64 percent) overall said they were undecided about the three Republican candidates vying to challenge incumbent Pat Williams for his U.S. House seat in November 1996, said Susan Selig Wallwork, director of the Montana Poll. Most of these undecideds (46 percent overall) said they were not familiar with the three candidates -- Rick Hill, Dwight MacKay and Alan Mikkelson. There was no clear front-runner among the 27 percent who had a preference.

These results were mirrored across the board, among all groups of Montanans throughout the state, Wallwork said. Even among Montanans most likely to vote in the Republican primary, 64 percent were undecided. Still, about a third were able to make a choice. Eight percent said they would vote for Rick Hill if they were voting now, 13 percent endorsed Dwight MacKay, and 12 percent endorsed Alan Mikkelson. About 2 percent said they might not vote in the primary.

-more-

The Montana Poll's statewide sample was drawn using the bureau's two-stage random sampling process that generates a representative cross-section of Montana's adult population. Its random digit telephone sampling program generates a statewide sample of telephone numbers, proportionate with the distribution of households in the state. A second random sampling procedure is then used to select one adult respondent in each household, taking into account the number and gender of adults in the household. The total sample (all respondents) has a potential maximum error margin of plus or minus 5 percentage points. The error margin for any subgroups would be larger depending on the size of the group.

###

**Contact:** Susan Wallwork, (406) 243-5113.

SJ/kr  
State and weeklies  
Mpollrep.rl



# MONTANA POLL

Bureau of Business and Economic Research, The University of Montana (Missoula, Montana 59812)

Sample: Adult Montanans, statewide (n=411)

Interview dates: September 21-26, 1995

Topic: Election Outlook 1996 -- Republican Primary for U.S. House of Representatives (Overall Results)

	All Respondents (n=411)
Rick Hill	6%
Dwight MacKay	10%
Alan Mikkelsen	11%
Undecided	64%
Not familiar with any of the candidates	46%
Not sure, can't say	18%
Won't vote at all or not in this Republican primary	9%

NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding.

<sup>a</sup>Self-described.

For further information: Susan Selig Wallwork  
Director of Survey Research  
BBER/The University of Montana  
Missoula, MT 59812

(406) 243-5113  
FAX (406) 243-2086

# MONTANA POLL

Bureau of Business and Economic Research, The University of Montana (Missoula, Montana 59812)

Sample: Adult Montanans, statewide

Interview dates: September 21-26, 1995

Topic: Election Outlook 1996 -- Republican Primary for U.S. House of Representatives (Results for Selected Subgroups)

	<u>Rick Hill</u>	<u>Dwight MacKay</u>	<u>Alan Mikkelsen</u>	<u>Undecided</u>	<u>Won't Vote<sup>a</sup></u>
All respondents (n=411)	6%	10%	11%	64%	9%
Registered to vote (n=339)	7%	9%	11%	64%	9%
Usually vote:					
Republican (n=151)	9%	11%	13%	66%	1%
Democrat (n=152)	7%	9%	12%	55%	18%
Likely to vote June 1996:					
Republican primary (n=177)	8%	13%	12%	64%	2%
Democratic primary (n=160)	6%	10%	12%	55%	16%
Republican <sup>b</sup> (n=130)	8%	12%	11%	68%	1%
Democrat <sup>b</sup> (n=125)	6%	9%	12%	52%	22%
Independent <sup>b</sup> (n=51)	4%	14%	10%	63%	10%
Conservative <sup>b</sup> (n=135)	8%	9%	16%	67%	1%
Moderate <sup>b</sup> (n=188)	5%	14%	10%	62%	9%
Liberal <sup>b</sup> (n=63)	6%	3%	8%	60%	22%

NOTE: Percentages may not add to 100 because of rounding.

<sup>a</sup>Won't vote at all or not in this Republican primary.

<sup>b</sup>Self-described.

For further information:

Susan Selig Wallwork  
Director of Survey Research  
BBER/The University of Montana

(406) 243-5113